

Officials Puzzled Over the Outcome Of Harriman Case

Dissolving of Enormous Holdings Controlled by
Great Corporations Does Not, It Is Alleged,
Restore Competition.

It is not too much to say that the Harriman inquiry has squarely presented to the Federal Government, with more force than ever before, the problem that is summarized in the query, "What are you going to do about it?" The Administration doesn't know. The Interstate Commission doesn't know. The Department of Justice doesn't know.

It is easy enough to say "dissolve it and restore competition." But the Northern Securities Company was dissolved, and competition was not restored. Corporations can be dissolved, but community of interest can't, when it is real, and not artificial, community of interest.

Take the Harriman system. It controls the Union Pacific, Southern Pacific, Oregon Story line, Oregon Railway and Navigation, Illinois Central and half interest each in the Alton and San Pedro roads. Along with these it has big holdings in other systems.

Results Do Not Obtain.

"Suppose you dissolve all this," said a practical student of railroad finance, who has had something to do with trust proceedings. "You can't destroy men's rights in the property they own. If six men own the stock of a holding company that in turn owns six roads, and you dissolve the holding company, what happens? In the simplest form, you can say that each man will take a railroad to himself. Then these six men will get together, one way or another, and establish peace instead of war; community of interest instead of competition. There's no use legislating or litigating against it. They will do it. The butchers, the grocers, the plumbers, the carpenters, the printers, the horsehoofers of every town have a like arrangement. Call it an association, a trust, a labor union, or what you please, it is essentially just the same thing as the co-operating of these six men who own a railroad apiece."

Case of Northern Securities.

The Government didn't accomplish any effective results when it dissolved the Northern Securities Company. Mr. Hill still controls the allied properties that were represented. He doesn't own them. It is true, but he holds the proxies for the stock owners, who trust in his management. Will it be the same way with the Union Pacific outfit? Dissolve the Harriman system, and will not Harriman or the financial syndicate which he represents go right on handling the properties?

How seriously these problems are being considered is shown by the fact that

a new investigation is soon to be made into the Hill system. Its real purpose is to discover how Mr. Hill did it. May be by discovering that it will be possible to guide the officers of the Department of Justice in writing a decree in the Harriman case, that will be effective. Evidently the decree in the Northern Securities case was not effective.

Follows Bryan's Ideas.

There is a little group of Democrats in Congress who believe in Government ownership of railroads. They believe thoroughly in the idea. Mr. Rainey, of Watch trust fame, is reputed one of the leaders in this group. He is from Illinois, and a devoted follower of Bryan. He believes that Bryan is right and will in the end be vindicated in the position which he has taken in advance of present public opinion and understanding of the question.

These public ownership Democrats feel that the Harriman revelations are certain to make public argument for them. They insist, in fact, that if the Government doesn't "make good" in the Harriman case, they will be left with no alternative but Government ownership. They think that the Northern Securities case is a sorry precedent, and that unless there is great improvement in the coming effort at prying syndicated railroads apart, the Government will have to admit that the task is impossible. Then, they believe, the time will come for frank, fair, serious consideration of Government ownership.

Dissolve Traffic Associations.

There is a strong disposition in Interstate Commerce Commission quarters to make an attempt at restoring competition by attacking and dissolving the traffic associations. The Supreme Court held in the Trans-Missouri case that such organizations were absolutely illegal. Yet there are half a dozen or more of them in existence, making rates in great areas of territory and for roads that ought to compete. They have been the means of raising rates over vast areas in the last few years. They are declared absolutely illegal and subject to dissolution.

And there is a growing feeling that they constitute the weak place in the armor. Prosecutions against these organizations, under the anti-trust law, are precluded in well-informed circles as likely to be the next move against the transportation interests.

PRESBYTERIANS GET SITE.

Chief Justice Claybaugh has signed a decree authorizing Charles R. Fowler, trustee, to sell to the Presbyterian Home, for \$15,500, the property 129 M street northwest. The property is to be used as a home for aged Presbyterians.

DONKEY AND CART FOR BRIDAL PAIR

Friends Steal Carriage
Awaiting Them at the
Church.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 17.—Riding behind a donkey, Mr. and Mrs. John McGrath, married in the Church of St. Thomas, Seventeenth and Morris streets, started on their honeymoon.

After listening to the good advice of the Rev. Father Brady, the pair ran the gamut of mischievous eyes brave by, expecting to escape in the carriage which was waiting.

But there was no carriage on hand. Instead a good-natured donkey attached to a shaky cart stood before the church. While they deliberated there was a shower of rice and shoes.

"Anything to escape," said the bridegroom, and, placing the bride in the cart, he whipped up the steed and expected to be whisked off suddenly. The animal seemed to be in the plot.

He humpered along, regardless of pleadings, and seemed to enjoy the ovation which greeted his passengers along the route. The McGraths finally reached their new home without mishap.

SHALL THE SHAVE COST 15 CENTS?

Tremendous Problem Soon
to Be Settled by
Barbers.

The question of whether the price of a shave shall be uniformly 15 cents will be settled in a few days.

At a meeting of the White Barbers' Union last night, the 15-cent shave was discussed in a harmonious spirit, but no vote was taken, the action being deferred until the committee reports the result of a personal canvass of all the boss barbers. Some or nearly all the white boss barbers now ask 15 cents for a shave, but there are a few shops in which the old price of 10 cents still prevails.

The union is practically a unit in favor of 15 cents, and the question has been put to the Colored Barbers' Union to take the same stand, as it will mean more money for the journeymen. At the next meeting of the White Barbers' Union the committee will make its report, and then the question will be decided.

The boss barbers will have a meeting tonight to emphasize their position on the 15-cent shave, and they will take action to bring into line the boss barbers who have gone back to the 10-cent shave.

ROOT'S SPEECH ON TARIFF PLEASING TO REVISIONISTS; CONGRESS MUCH INTERESTED

While Action at Present Session Is Not Expected, Yet It
Is Made Clear That Agitation Will Not Rest
in Abeyance.

Secretary Root's speech before the national convention for the extension of the foreign commerce of the United States, in which he came out strongly for a maximum and minimum tariff law, is attracting much notice, not alone on the part of the friends of a maximum and minimum tariff law, but in Congress. It is of the more interest for the reason that it has been but a little while since it was announced that the Republican leaders in Congress had come to the conclusion that tariff revision would be postponed until after the next Presidential election.

President Roosevelt coincided with the plans of the high tariff men in Congress to the extent that he consented to call no special session the coming spring. More than this, it has been the general feeling of the stand-pat element in Congress that the President has aligned himself with this element and that he can be relied on not to stir up the tariff question while he remains in the White House.

Leaders Taking Notice.

The address of Secretary Root, however, has excited not a little consternation among the leaders in Congress who believe in letting the Dingley schedules alone until a new President is elected. In taking the stand he did, Secretary Root has practically aligned himself with such tariff revisionists as Governor Cummins, of Iowa; John A. Kasson, and other prominent advocates of the maximum and minimum tariff theory. Senator Aldrich, Secretary Shaw, and high protectionists of that stamp have advocated a maximum and minimum tariff, but with the idea of making the present Dingley schedules the minimum and the maximum from 20 to 25 per cent higher. This is not the idea of the men who are seeking lower duties on imports from favored nations.

and it is not understood to be the idea of Secretary Root, whose plan is to make the Dingley schedules the maximum, the minimum being from 20 to 25 per cent lower.

Agitation Will Not Sleep.

Secretary Root's speech is of moment, in that it makes it clear that the decision of the House leaders to let tariff alone for the rest of this Administration is not going to prevent agitation of the subject. The majority of the delegates at the national convention for the extension of the foreign commerce of the United States favored a maximum and minimum tariff law. This majority represented a large and powerful business element throughout the country, and made it plain that it was not satisfied with the idea of no action on the tariff until 1908.

Under the circumstances, the Root speech and the sentiment exhibited in the convention have set a good many members of Congress to wondering whether it is going to be possible to hold down agitation of the tariff at the long session, which will begin next December. It has also set many politicians to thinking whether the Republican cause has not been done much harm by the decision of the Congress leaders on the Republican side to defer consideration of the tariff until 1908, and whether this decision is not going to prove of material aid and comfort to the Democratic party in the 1908 campaign.

CHILDREN ARE MADE ILL BY POISONED CANDY

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 17.—Three children of John P. Monatt are ill from eating candy which is said to have contained arsenic. They are Bertha, aged twelve years; Alice, aged ten, and Maud, aged four. Alice has just recovered consciousness after being insensible three days. Bertha was unconscious forty-eight hours.

DEATH OF FIANCEE TURNS MAN THIEF

Peculiar Excuse of University Student Who Confesses Robbery.

BETHLEHEM, Pa., Jan. 17.—Charged with the larceny of valuable furniture from the Lehigh University Home Club and then selling it, Eubert F. Gross, a prominent young man of this place, a graduate of Lehigh University, was arrested late at his home here. He admitted his guilt.

Gross is about twenty-five years old, and is a remarkably bright young man, having been valedictorian of his Bethlehem High School class and standing high in his class, 1902, at Lehigh. His thefts are said to amount to \$1,000.

When the officers arrested Gross his mother fainted and was with difficulty revived. Gross' father says his son fell from a cherry tree some eight years ago, landing on his head, since which time he had often acted queerly.

Gross himself says that since the death of his fiancée, Miss Estella Koons, an Allentown school teacher, two years ago, he has not been himself.

Charges of stealing books from the Bethlehem Free Library and the Philadelphia Public Library are likely to be preferred against Gross. It is also said that he took valuable books from the Lehigh University Library.

TWO YEARS IN PRISON FOR FATAL STABBING

SUFFOLK, Va., Jan. 17.—For the murder of Sam Haskins, several weeks ago, John Harrison, in Nansemond circuit court, was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. There were extenuating circumstances which influenced the court.

Haskins, who had been ordered to keep away from Harrison's premises because of his attentions to Harrison's wife, was found there late one night making sound signals on the weather boarding, believing it was assumed that Harrison was away. Haskins fled, but Harrison overtook him in a church yard, near Crittenton, and stabbed him to death with a butcher knife.

Special Notices.

AMERICAN TELEGRAPHIC COMPANY.—The annual meeting of this Company duly called to be held on Tuesday, December 11th, 1906, having been unavoidably postponed, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the American Telegraphic Company will be held at Rooms 325 and 326 Colorado Building, corner of 14th and O streets northwest, Washington D. C. on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30TH, 1907, at TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON, for the purpose of electing eleven trustees or directors who shall manage the affairs of the Company for the ensuing year, and for the purpose of transacting such other business as may properly come before said meeting. By order of the Board of Directors, W. A. ROSENBAUM, President, Z. B. BABBITT, Secretary.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27, 1906. Dec 27, 1906. 101-104

I HAVE OPENED A Sewing Machine place where I will repair any make of machine for \$5.00 and guarantee same for one year. W. H. KRAMEL, 433 7th st. Phone M. 678.

Washington, D. C. Jan. 18, 1907. OFFICE OF THE WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY.—Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Washington Gaslight Company for the election of directors and for such other business as may properly come before said meeting will be held at the office of the company, 415 10th st. n.w., on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1907, at 12 O'CLOCK M. The polls will be open from 12 o'clock noon to 1 o'clock p. m. WILLIAM B. ORME, Secretary.

VENTILATION WITHOUT DRAFT.—The most essential to retain health. Equip your Churches, School Houses, Office Rooms, Sleeping Apartments, etc. with "PULLMAN AUTOMATIC VENTILATORS," economical and everlasting. H. C. KIDWELL, Wash. D. C. mg. for company. Office, 1255 31st st. Phone West 811.

WATCH AND CLOCK REPAIRING.—Why go down town and pay big prices when you can get your work done much cheaper at 725 20th st. n.w.? Watches and clocks and jewelry repairing. "Clocks and Jewels" Wash. D. C. French clocks and English hall clocks a specialty. Call or send postal. T. F. CALLAHAN, 725 20th st. n.w. Jan-17

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25 Bushels Crushed Coke, delivered, \$3.00
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1 Vegetable Dish, worth.....35c

Total value.....\$2.40



COUPON 2



This coupon and 50 cents entitle bearer to one 20-gallon heavy galvanized iron Ash Can, with side handles; without cover. Regular price, \$1.15. With cover—special, \$1.15.

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This coupon and 45 cents entitle bearer to one 25-pint Granite Iron Seamless Tea Kettle. Regular price, 35 cents.

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This coupon and 29 cents entitle bearer to one large size copper-bottom Wash Boiler, as per cut.

COUPON 5



This coupon and 35 cents entitle bearer to one 25-pint Granite Iron Dishpan. Regular price, 40 cents.

COUPON 6



This coupon and 15 cents entitle bearer to one jappaned Bread Box, neatly stenciled. Regular price, 25 cents.

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This coupon and 29 cents entitle bearer to one large jappaned Bread Box, neatly stenciled. Regular price, 59 cents.

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